EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Please replace claim 1, 16, 19 and 22-34 with the following:

DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for creating and using a task identifier for indexing, help file within a system for providing help content to a computer operator, the method comprising:

providing a user with a limited, closed set of word selections that can be assigned to represent one of a plurality of elements that together form the task identifier, the task identifier being indicative of a help-related task described in the content of the help file;

providing a task name grammar that designates said one of the plurality of elements as requiring an action entry in the form of a common or compound verb;

providing access to a collection of taxonomic organization data, wherein the taxonomic organization data relates each word selection in the limited, closed set to a taxonomic category, and wherein the taxonomic category for each word selection is not apparent in the word selection itself;

receiving a selection from the user that is indicative of a particular word selection from the limited, closed set of word selections;

automatically determining, based at least in part on a referral to a reference included within the taxonomic organization data, a

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particular taxonomic category that corresponds to the particular word selection, wherein the reference includes a record of an association that links the particular taxonomic category to the particular word selection, wherein automatically determining is a step conducted by a computer processor that is a functional component of the computer;

based on said automatic determination, automatically assigning the particular taxonomic category to the file;

automatically determining, bast at least in part on the referral to the reference included within the taxonomic organization data, a second particular taxonomic category that corresponds to the particular word selection, wherein the reference further includes a record of an association that links the second particular taxonomic category to the particular word selection; and

facilitating a user-initiated sorting of the file based on the particular taxonomic category, wherein the result of the sort based on the particular taxonomic category is not the same as a result of a sort based on the particular word selection.

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16. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for at least semi-automatically applying a taxonomic classification to a file to be incorporated into a system for providing help content to a user, the method comprising:

assigning a first taxonomic category to a first word selection from a set of word selections;

providing a user with the set of word selections that can be assigned to represent an element of a task identifier, the task identifier indicative of a help-related task described in the content of the file;

receiving a selection from the user that is indicative of a first word selection from the set of word selections, the first word selection having a meaning that is indicative of the help-related task;

determining, based on referencing a taxonomy data record indicating an association that links the first word selection to a first taxonomic category, that the first word selection is linked by association to the first taxonomic category;

automatically assigning, based on the selection received from the user, and based on said determination that the first word selection is linked by association to the first taxonomic category, the first taxonomic category to the file;

determining, based on referencing the taxonomy data record which indicates an association that links the first word selection to the a second taxonomic category, that the first word selection is linked by association to the second taxonomic category;

automatically assigning, based on the selection received from the user, and based on said determination that the first word selection is lined by association to the second taxonomic category, the second taxonomic category to the file;

wherein said taxonomy data record comprises a hierarchically organized taxonomic classification structure, and wherein the first and second taxonomic categories fall within completely separate and distinct branches of the hierarchically organized taxonomic classification structure; and

wherein each automatic assigning step of the computer-implemented method is a step conducted by a computer processor that is a component of the computer.

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assigning the second taxonomic category to the file based on the selection received from the user; and

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19. (Cancelled)

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein providing a task name grammar further comprises providing a task name grammar that designates a second one of the plurality of elements as requiring a semantic-relationship entry.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the collection of taxonomic organization data is a pre-established classification hierarchy organized in multiple levels.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein said particular taxonomic category is positioned within the pre-established classification hierarchy within a different hierarchical branch than a branch within which the second particular taxonomic category is positioned.

25. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the limited, closed set of word selections is a controlled vocabulary in that the selection received from the user is a selection from a list of choices.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein receiving the selection comprises receiving a something other than a natural language input.

27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the selection comprises receiving a something other than a natural language input.

28. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the limited, closed set of word selections is a controlled vocabulary in that the selection received from the user is a selection from a list of choices.

29. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the set of word selections is a limited, closed set of word selections thus forming a controlled vocabulary.

30. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the task identifier is arranged in accordance with a predetermined order of multiple linguistic structural components, the element being one of said multiple linguistic structural components.

31. (New) The method of claim 16, further comprising providing a task name grammar that designates said element as requiring an action entry in the form of a common or compound verb.

32. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein receiving the selection from the user comprises
receiving an input that is not a natural language input.

33. (New) A computer-implemented method for applying a taxonomic classification to a file to be incorporated into a system for providing help content to a user, the method comprising:

assigning a first taxonomic category to a first word selection included in a closed set of word selections;

providing a user with the closed set of word selections, the word selections being presented as a list of candidate word selections from which an element of a task identifier can be chosen, the task identifier, when fully formed, being indicative of a help-related task described in the content of the file;

receiving a selection from the user that is indicative of a first word selection from the set of word selections, the first word selection having a meaning that is indicative of the help-related task;

assigning the first word selection as said element of the task identifier;

automatically determining, based on referencing a taxonomy data record indicating an association that links the first word selection to a first taxonomic category, that the first word selection is linked by association to the first taxonomic category;

automatically assigning, based on the selection received from the user, and based on said determination that the first word selection is linked by association to the first taxonomic category, the first taxonomic category to the file; and

wherein the automatic assigning step of the computer-implemented method is a step conducted by a computer processor that is a component of the computer.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, further comprising:

providing a task name grammar that designates said element as requiring a particular linguistic structural characteristic; and

requiring that the first word selection include said particular linguistic structural characteristic.

Interview Summary

3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Chris Holt on 06/17/2009.

Inquiry

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MESEKER TAKELE whose telephone number is (571)270-1653. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30AM-5:00PM est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Bashore can be reached on (571) 272-4088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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